

Executive Registry

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15 JAN 1958

THE READER'S DIGEST

PLEASANTVILLE · NEW YORK

9 January 1958

Dear Mr. Dulles:

We here at the Digest are much concerned about the feeling of alarm, and sometimes even of hysteria, which has been developing in the country as a result of recent Soviet military and scientific achievements - and propaganda. We feel that it would be in the public interest for us to make an authoritative report to the American public, and through our many foreign editions to readers everywhere in the world, on what the actual facts are. Such a report could serve two important purposes: first, it could reassure Americans as to our present military strength, and thus dissipate alarm and hysteria; and, second, it could make clear just what will necessarily be demanded of the public, in money and effort, to maintain lasting military security in the future. We feel that a report which could accomplish these purposes would be a distinct public service.

I shall be in Washington next week - Monday, January 13 through Friday, January 17 - to gather the facts for this presentation, and would greatly appreciate the privilege of an off-the-record discussion

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with you. In the hope that an appointment can be arranged, I shall call your office from the Carlton Hotel when I arrive. Please do not trouble to acknowledge this letter.

With thanks in advance for what we feel is one of the most important editorial projects we have ever undertaken, I am, with all best regards,

Sincerely,

Paul Palmer

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